

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gerald M. Murphy, Jr. on October 27, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

On page 7, starting at line 8, the following has been inserted:

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 illustrates a preferred embodiment of one filtration chamber according to the present invention;

Figure 2 is a side-view of two filtration chambers; one of which has a water level at a minimum level and the other of which has a water level at an upper limit; and

Fig. 3 illustrates a water recirculation system according to the present invention.

On page 7, line 10, Detailed has been inserted prior to "Description".

On page 15, line 6, "Detailed description of the Invention" has been deleted.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

While it is known in the art to provide a filtration system and method for filtering water comprising at least one chamber, said chamber comprising a water inlet defining a proximal end of the chamber; a water outlet defining a distal end of the chamber; means for water distribution within the chamber; filtration medium for filtering water passing through the chamber; at least one braker grid for preventing water channeling within the chamber, wherein said braker grid is positioned substantially distally to said means for water distribution (see, for example, US Pat No 5,595,653 to Good et al.), in the examiner's opinion, the prior art fails to teach or render obvious altering the water level within said chamber from a level substantially distal to said at least one braker grid in a substantially proximal direction, such that said filtration medium is forced through the braker grid, and wherein by lowering the water level within said chamber said filtration medium is forced through said at least one braker grid.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FRED PRINCE whose telephone number is (571)272-1165. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 6:30-4:00; alt. Fridays 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on (571) 272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Fred Prince/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797

fgp
10/27/08